

# YELLOWSTONE BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP

## Building Local Business Through Restoration

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Governor's Restoration Forum  
June 8, 2006 – Billings, MT

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[www.yellowstonebusiness.org](http://www.yellowstonebusiness.org)



# Yellowstone Business Partnership

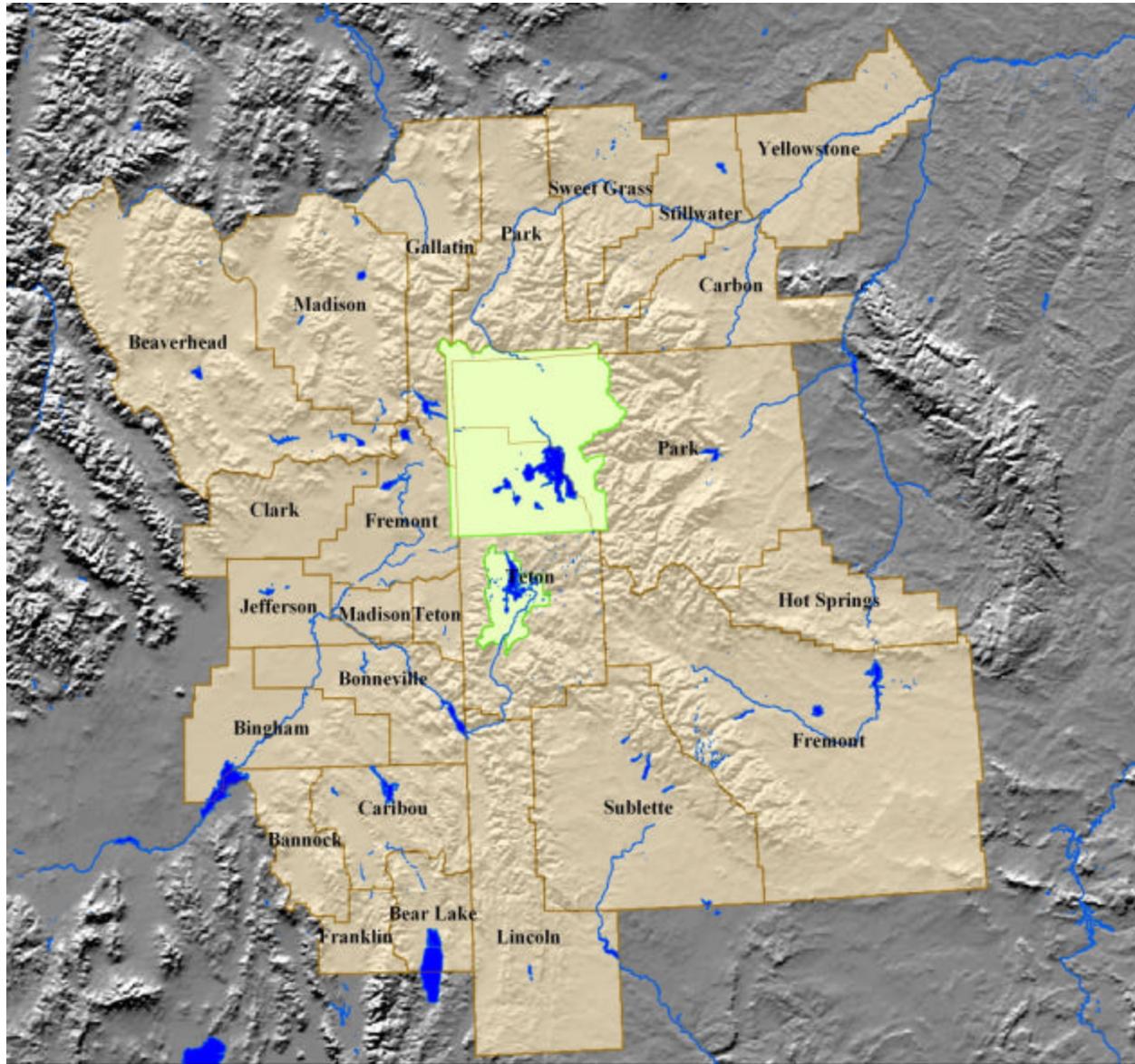
## Our Mission

*The Yellowstone Business Partnership unites businesses dedicated to preserving a healthy environment and shaping a prosperous and sustainable future for communities in the Yellowstone-Teton region.*

*We promote scientific understanding, informed dialogue, and collaborative approaches to resolving our region's most complex socio-economic and natural resource challenges.*



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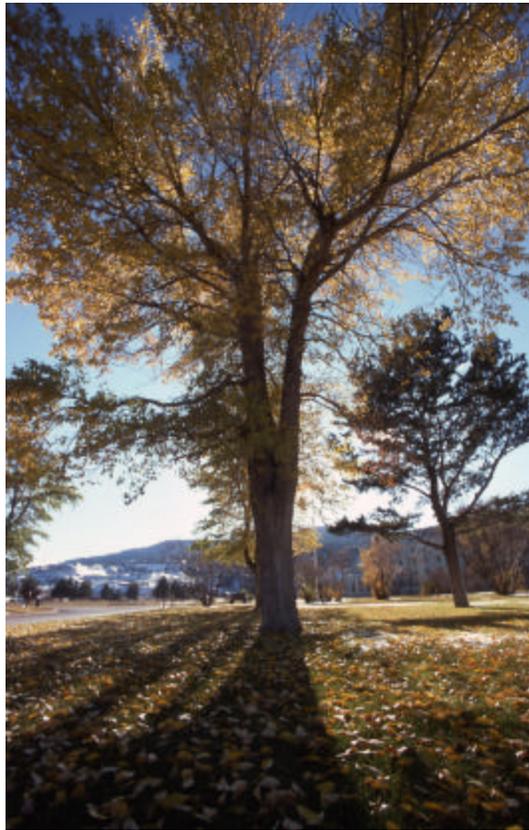
# Yellowstone Business Partnership

## How and Why Was It Created?

- Neither chambers nor environmental groups represented founders' interests
- Wanted to be better informed and to contribute to local and regional decisions
- Interested in operating more sustainably and cooperating across state boundaries
- Desired more collaborative versus confrontational approaches
- Nonprofit membership organization estab. in 2001; first members recruited Oct. 2003

# Regional Asset Profile:

## Off-Season Assets and Opportunities



- Objective: to identify non-summer assets, trends and potential economies
- Collaborative research focused on regional seasonality; indices
- Tri-state study design and project investment
- Will culminate in Fall 2007 event at Buffalo Bill Historical Center

# A Few YBP Businesses Engaged in Restoration in our Region

- **CTA Architects Engineers** – Billings, MT
  - Historic Building Renovation
  - Brownfield Restoration
- **Sun Ranch** – Madison Valley, MT
  - Rangeland Restoration
- **Idaho National Laboratory** – Idaho Falls
  - Contaminants in the CDA Basin, ID
  - Monitoring at Gilt Edge Superfund Site – SD
  - SE Idaho Selenium Information Project

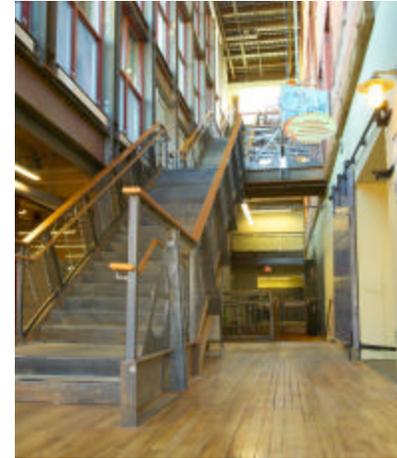
# CTA Billings Headquarters Is Housed in Renovated Warehouse



- Historic four-story warehouse built in 1918
- 150 occupants in formerly blighted downtown
- Extensive reuse of existing building & finishes

# \$5 Million Project; \$600K Grant for Sustainability Features

- Five-story atrium + elevator stair core added to building
- Green roof; outside plaza
- Extensive day lighting
- Occupancy sensing light switching
- Three-stage evaporative cooling mechanical system



# Renovation of NPS Headquarters at Mammoth Nears Completion

- \$5.5 million for 30,000 sq ft. stone building
- Energy efficient mechanical/electrical systems
- Extensive seismic structural upgrade
- Complete interior, some exterior renovation



# CTA Bozeman Office To Restore, Incorporate Old Fertilizer Elevator



- 12,000 sq ft to house 36 employees
- Natural ventilation
- Day lighting
- Reuse of existing building materials
- Located on brownfield site to be reclaimed

# Renovated Railroad Offloading Building is CTA Missoula Office

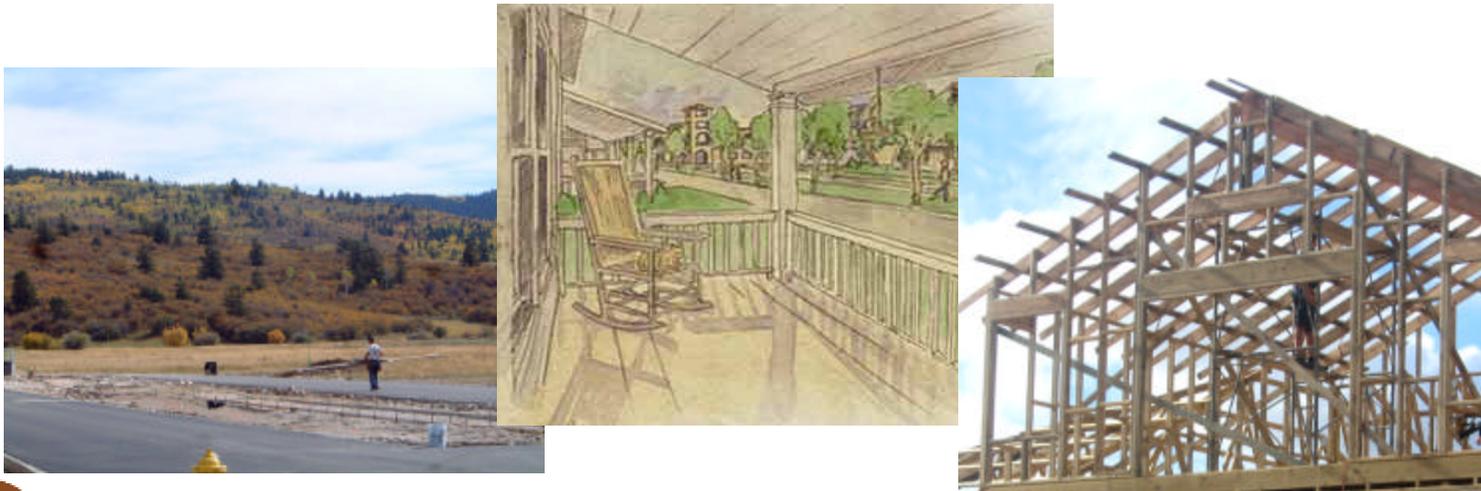
- On Orange Street Bridge north of downtown
- 7,000 sq ft renovation reused much of original
- New energy efficient systems installed
- Remainder of building soon will be used



# Sustainable Development Initiative

## YBP Response to Growth-Related Concerns

- **2005:** Assessed regional attitudes on growth & change
- **2006:** Create regionally-relevant LEED rating system for green building and responsible land use; to preserve biodiversity and cultural/historic values; enhance mobility
- **2007:** Regional pilot projects demonstrate new standards



# The Sun Ranch Madison Valley, Montana



# Conservation Ranching = Profit on 25,000 Acres

- Abundance of migrating wildlife coexists with cattle operation – 1,500 head managed to restore rangeland health
- Neighborhood grazing approaches
- Herd effect trial on undesired plants netted 50% increase of desired species
- Use-zone mapping to check harvest rates
- 25 rangeland transects to monitor trends

# INL Characterizing Groundwater Metal Sources - Canyon Creek, ID

- Pinpoint areas of subsurface, alluvial contamination
- Est. Zinc, Cadmium leach rates and residence times
- Provide timescales for metal removal from alluvium



# INL Improving Performance of the Success Mine Treatment System



- Working with CDA Basin Commission to address mine drainage
- Reactive barrier using fish apatite plugged up
- Air sparging and plastic packing rings in media have reduced plugging

# Rimini Mine Remote Monitoring System a Joint INL/MSE Project



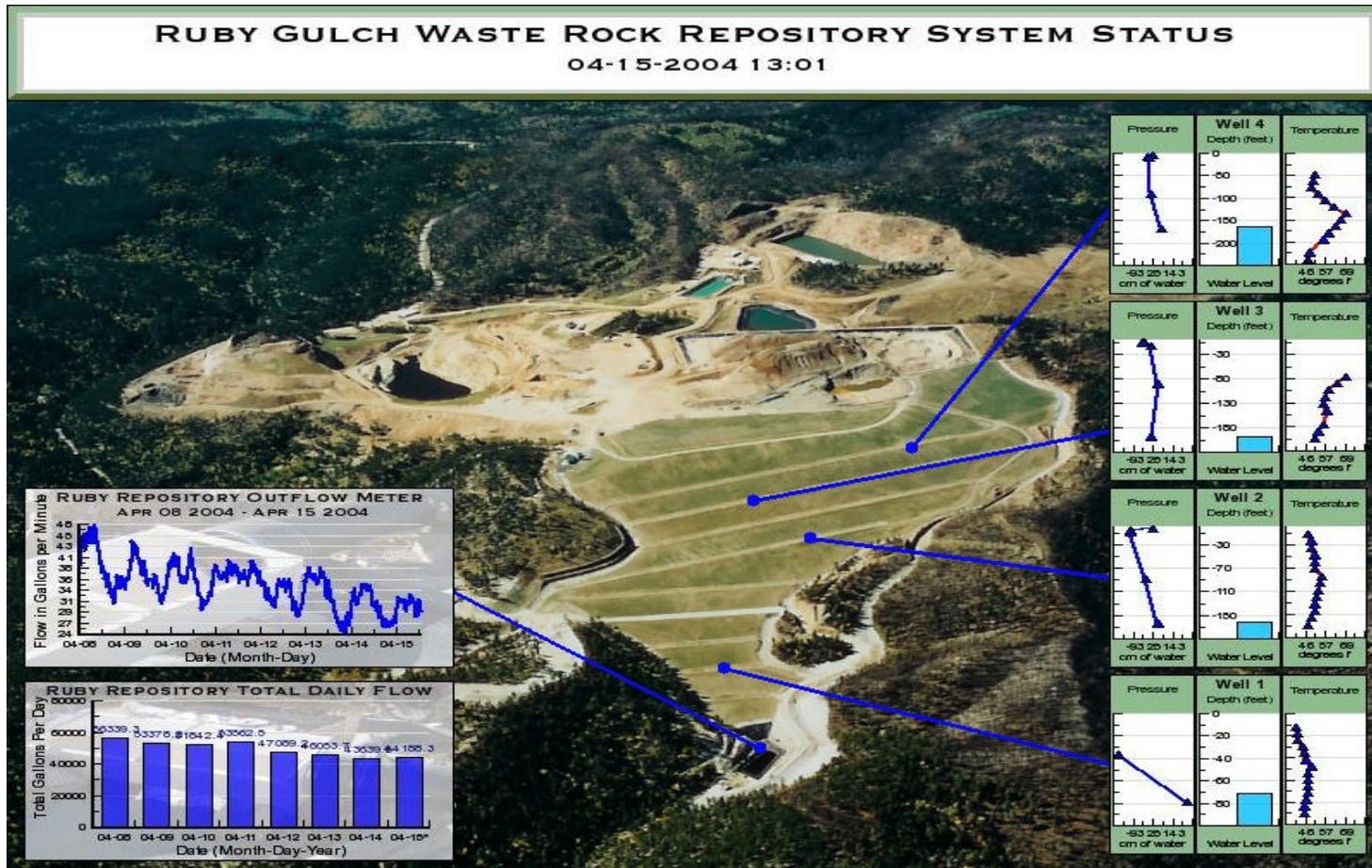
# Subsurface Management Systems Being Developed at Gilt Edge Mine

- Gilt Edge Superfund Site-Deadwood, SD
- AMD impacting community drinking water
- Cap and cover mitigation to limit AMD
- Four objectives for automated monitoring:
  - Ensure integrity of cap and diversion system
  - Understand hydrology and geochemistry
  - Provide timely, relevant info to stakeholders
  - Improve future cap designs based on data

# Emplacement of Impermeable Cap at Gilt Edge Mine Site, SD



# Autonomous Monitoring System at the Gilt Edge Mine, SD



# Web-Based Selenium Information System One of INL Collaborations

- Centralized multi-agency repository for SE Idaho selenium monitoring data
- Reports concentrations in soil, water, sediment, vegetation plus mine info
- Posts/maps results from studies and remedial actions for all interested parties
- Funded through Congressional earmark
- <http://giscenter-ims.isu.edu/SISP>

# These Different Projects Share Common Elements for Success

- Private-public collaboration essential in project design, funding and implementation
- Sharing information with all parties critical
- Restoration incomplete without ongoing monitoring and data interpretation/action
- Work opportunities do exist for students, scientists, professionals and technicians
- Utilize regional expertise and experience